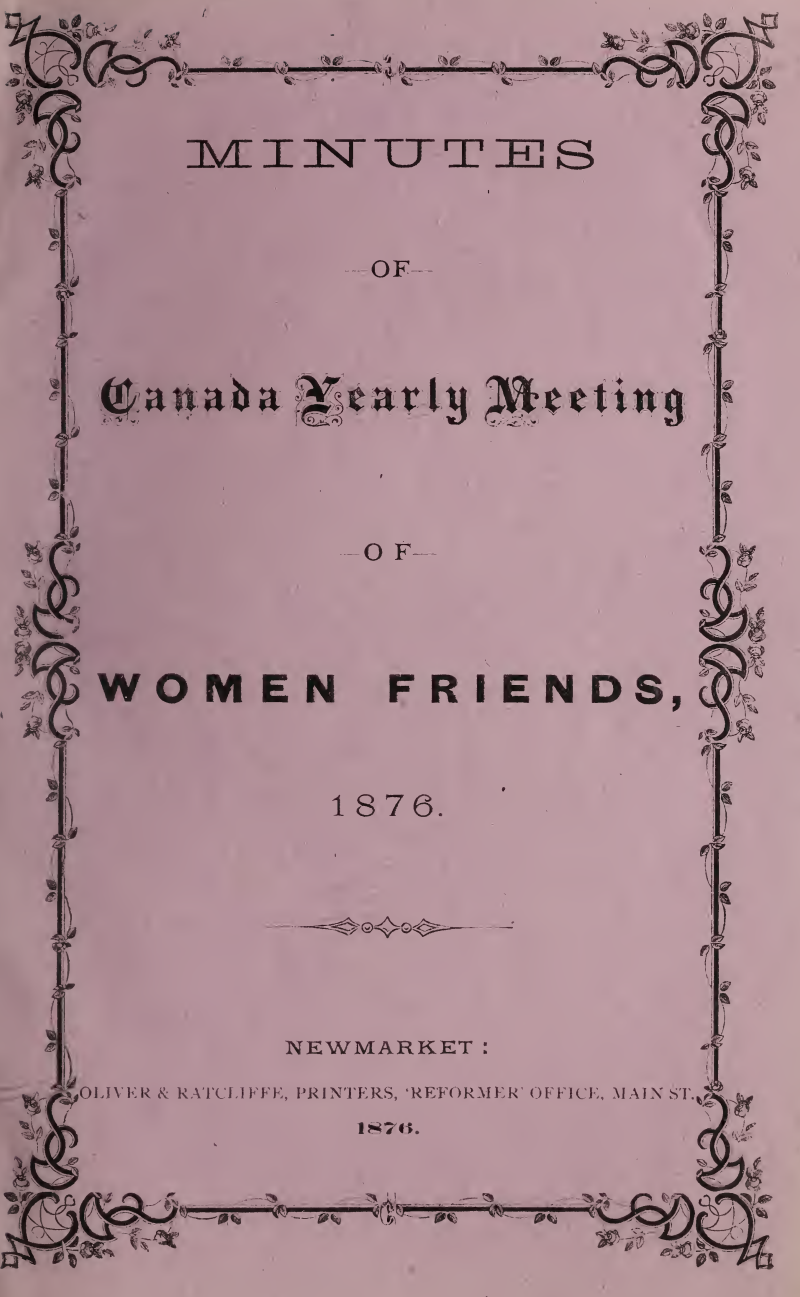


A decorative border of grapevines and leaves frames the entire page. The vines enter from the corners and run along the edges, with clusters of leaves and small flowers interspersed.

MINUTES

—OF—

Canada Yearly Meeting

—OF—

WOMEN FRIENDS,

1876.

A horizontal decorative separator consisting of a central diamond shape with symmetrical flourishes on either side.

NEWMARKET :

OLIVER & RATCLIFFE, PRINTERS, 'REFORMER' OFFICE, MAIN ST.

1876.

MINUTES

—OF—

Canada Yearly Meeting

—O F—

WOMEN FRIENDS,

1876.



NEWMARKET :

OLIVER & RATCLIFFE, PRINTERS, 'REFORMER' OFFICE, MAIN ST.

1876.

AT CANADA YEARLY MEETING
OF
WOMEN FRIENDS,
HELD AT PICKERING, ONTARIO,

*By adjournments from the 30th of 6th Mo., to the 5th
of 7th Mo., inclusive, 1876.*

The Representatives being called were present, except four. A satisfactory reason assigned for the absence of one.

THERE WERE FROM PELHAM :

SARAH NICHOLSON,	HANNAH TAYLOR,
LYDIA P. STOVER,	PHEBE H. STOVER,
RACHEL GWILLAM,	HANNAH WARING,
AND ELLEN ATKINS.	

FOR YONGE STREET :

MARY R. WEBB,	EDITH ROGERS.
PHEBE B. ELLIS,	HANNAH CORNELL,
AND MARY J. DAVIS.	

FOR WEST LAKE :

SUSAN DORLAND,	SARAH LEAVENS,
PHEBE DORLAND,	SARAH J. BOWERMAN,
LYDIA S. HUBBS,	MARGARET WARD,
JANE BONISTEEL,	AMY LEAR,
MARY ROBINSON,	MARY DORLAND,
AND ANNIE WILTSIE.	

Caretakers for Pelham were—Phebe Stover and Mary Barker. For Yonge street—Lucinda Doan, Sarah Cody, Martha Rogers, Lydia F. Clarke and Charlotte Rogers. For West Lake—Sarah Ann Derbyshire and Angeline Haight.

The Friends appointed as Caretakers were in attendance, except two. A satisfactory reason given for their absence.

We have in attendance at this time many dear Friends from other Yearly Meetings, with Minutes of unity and concurrence from their respective Meetings.

Deborah C. Thomas, from Baltimore, Mo., Meeting for the Eastern and Western District.

Esther B. Tuttle, from Alum Creek mo. meeting, Ohio.

Mary Jane Weaver, from Elba mo. meeting, N. Y.

Mary S. Knowles, from Farnham mo. meeting, Quebec, and endorsed by Ferrisburgh Quarter, N. Y.

Lida G. Romick, from Alum Creek mo. meeting, endorsed by Alum Creek quarter, Ohio.

Hannah McKeel, from Scipio mo. meeting, N. Y.

Also as companion to Hannah McKeel, Esther Gifford, an elder from Scipio mo. meeting, N. Y.

Hannah B. Goddard, an elder from Farnham mo. meeting, Quebec, as companion to Mary S. Knowles.

Hannah Binns, as companion to Lida Romick, from Alum Creek mo. meeting, Ohio.

Also, with a minute of unity and concurrence, Thomas Ladd, a minister from New York mo. meeting, endorsed by Westbury quarterly meeting.

David B. Updegraff, from Short Creek mo. meeting, Ohio.

Wm. Allen, from Oak Ridge mo. meeting, endorsed by Northern quarterly meeting, Indiana.

Elwood Scott, a minister, and Susannah his wife, an elder from Oak Ridge mo. meeting, endorsed by Northern quarter, Indiana.

Fernando G. Cartland, from Deep River quarterly meeting, North Carolina.

William Perry Haworth, from Sugar Plain mo. meeting, Western.

Jacob Baker, from Raisin mo. meeting, Ohio.

Also Isaac Thomas, an elder, as companion to David B. Updegraff, from Short Creek mo. meeting, Indiana.

Susan Dorland, Edith Rogers, Hannah Cornell, Jane Cronk, Lydia P. Stover, Phebe B. Ellis, Hannah Waring, Rachel Doyle, Sarah Leavens, and Sarah T. Barker were appointed to act in conjunction with men Friends in preparing returning minutes for the Friends in attendance, with minutes, and produce them at a future sitting.

The London General Epistle was received and read to our edification and comfort.

Epistles from London, Dublin and New England, have been received and read at this time.

Having convened under a precious covering wherein the Lord's presence has been felt to be in our midst to comfort, encourage and strengthen, we would render thanksgiving and praise unto Him to whom it is forever due.

Adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

Seventh Day Morning, 7th Mo., 1st, 1876.

Friends convened near the hour adjourned to.

Susan Dorland, on behalf of the Representatives, reported they were united in bringing forward the names of the former clerks, Eliza H. Varney and Hannah Jane Cody, to serve another year, with which this Meeting united, and appointed them to that service the ensuing year.

The names of Elizabeth R. Rorke and Susannah Haight were brought forward as Messengers for the ensuing year, with which this Meeting united, and they were appointed to that service.

Epistles from New York, North Carolina, Baltimore, Indiana, Western Iowa, and Kansas were received and read at this time, strengthening the

hearts of some and comforting others, and felt to be links that bind us together as sisters.

Susan Dorland, Lydia P. Stover, Hannah Lapp, Sarah Leavens, Hannah Jane Cody, Jane Cronk, Martha Rogers, Emma Richardson, Ellen Atkins, Phebe Jane Spencer, Phebe Doyle, Lydia S. Hubbs, Edith Rogers, Phebe B. Ellis, Susannah Haight, Anna Terrill, Mary Bowerman, Lucinda Doan, Sarah Jane Barker and Elizabeth R. Rorke were appointed to prepare essays of Epistles and produce them at a future sitting.

Men Friends informed they had appointed a Committee to take into consideration the propositions forwarded from Western and Indiana Yearly Meetings, with which this Meeting united and appointed Lydia P. Stover, Sarah T. Barker, Mary Ann Valentine, Eliza Brewer, Jane Cronk, Edith Rogers, Mary Robinson, Isabel Kitely, Hannah Cornell, Mary Ann Wetherald and Susan Dorland to confer with Men Friends and report at a future sitting.

Betsey W. Stover, Hannah Waring, Susan Dorland and Elizabeth Richardson were appointed to prepare summary answers and produce at our next sitting.

Hannah Jane Cody informed she had attended to her appointment in the printing of the Minutes and Epistles of last year. This meeting appointed her to that service again this year, and to call on the Yearly Meetings Treasurer for funds to defray expenses, and report next year.

This sitting having been a season of refreshing to many hearts, and the overshadowing presence of the Most High felt to be with us, and His Everlasting Arms to be underneath for our support, under this covering the Meeting adjourned to meet Second Day morning at 10 o'clock.

Second Day Morning, 7th Mo., 3rd, 1876.

Friends met near the hour adjourned to.

A certificate of unity and concurrence from Sugar Plain Monthly Meeting, Indiana, on behalf of Joshua Moffatt, as companion to Wm. P. Haworth, was received and read at this time.

A satisfactory report from the Representative Meeting was also received and read. With heartfelt gratitude we acknowledge the donations for the benefit of the Boarding School, especially those from other Yearly Meetings,

The Friends appointed to prepare summary answers produced them.

We proceeded with the reading of the queries with their answers as they came up from the different quarters, as far as the 7th. They claimed our prayerful consideration and much pertinent counsel was given which we desire may be treasured up in good and honest hearts.

The Meeting adjourned to meet on Third Day Morning at 10 o'clock.

Third Day Morning, 7th Mo., 4th, 1876.

Friends again convened.

During the sitting we resumed and concluded reading the queries and answers thereto, a summary of which is as follows :

First Answer,—Most Friends appear careful to attend all our Meetings on First Days, but many neglect the attendance of mid-week meetings; those for discipline generally well attended. The hour is nearly observed. Not quite clear of unbecoming behaviour. Accounts from one monthly meeting reports a want of due regard for the feelings of others, and some care taken.

Second Answer,—Most Friends are preserved in love one towards another, as far as appears. Two small Meetings make an exception, and a third re-

ports a lack of Christian love, arising from a want of unity of sentiment. When differences have arisen care has been taken to end them. Talebearing and detraction not so fully avoided and discouraged as is desirable.

Third Answer.—Most Friends endeavour to train up their children, and those of other Friends under their care, in the principles of the Christian religion as professed by us, and in the plainness and simplicity of dress, language and deportment which it enjoins. They are good examples in those respects themselves. While others do not see the necessity of these things we believe Friends do endeavour to guard their children against corrupt conversation; but greater care in the selection of books for our children is desirable.

Fourth Answer.—Most Friends are diligent in reading the Holy Scriptures in their families collectively.

Fifth Answer.—Friends avoid the use of intoxicating drinks, except for purposes strictly medicinal, and are clear of frequenting taverns and attending places of diversion, as far as we know.

Sixth Answer.—The circumstances of the poor, and of those who appear likely to require assistance, are inspected and relief afforded. They are advised and assisted in suitable employment, and all children under our care are in a way to be educated for the ordinary duties of life.

Seventh Answer.—Friends are clear of complying with military requisitions and of paying any fine or tax instead thereof.

Eighth Answer.—We believe Friends are just in their dealings and punctual in fulfilling their engagements, and are careful to conduct their business as becomes our religious profession. When any

give occasion for fear on these accounts they are seasonably laboured with for their preservation and recovery.

Ninth Answer,—Care is mostly taken seasonably to deal with offenders, we trust in the spirit of meekness and agreeably to our discipline. One Meeting reports not as faithfully in all cases as is desirable.

While the state of our Society was thus brought before the meeting much excellent counsel was given and the query was asked !—"Is there not some danger of our forgetting Him whom it is our duty to love and serve?" It was felt that we sustain a loss by the non-attendance of our midweek meetings. Friends, both older and younger, were encouraged to greater faithfulness therein, believing they would be the better prepared to perform the duties of this life. Mothers were encouraged to take their children with them, believing that many times these little ones would also receive a crumb from the Master's bountiful table; for he who said, "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not," knoweth their need, and can supply every want. We were reminded of the first great commandment, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might;" and the second is like unto it, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself;" remembering the words of our blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, "Thou shalt worship the *Lord thy God*, and *Him only* shalt thou serve.

The query arose, wherefore is "the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly healed?" but we were comforted in believing that there is balm in Gilead, and there is a Physician there.

We were encouraged to labor not for that meat that perisheth, but for that which satisfyeth and is enduring, that ye may reap life everlasting. Make the fountain pure, then will the streams be pure also, that, through the mercies of God in Christ Jesus our

Lord, we may be enabled to walk humbly, watchfully and prayerfully before the world, “ adorned in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with brodered hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; but (which becometh women professing godliness), with good works.

Prayer was offered on behalf of the sick and afflicted, and also for the dear ones who remained by the stuff, that they might partake largely of the *spoil*.

Essays of epistles from London, Dublin, Baltimore, Indiana, New England, Ohio and Kansas, have been read and adopted. The Clerk was directed to sign and forward them to their respective Meetings.

The report received from the Committee on Bible Schools was satisfactory and encouraging. It is as follows:

At a Bible School Conference of Canada Yearly Meeting, held the 30th of 6th Mo., 1876

Reports were received from sixteen Schools— a summary of which is herewith presented to the Yearly Meeting.

JOHN WRIGHT, *Clerk*.

A joint Committee was appointed to bring forward names of Friends to have charge of Bible schools viz., Abby Moor, Mary Webb, Rachel Doyle, Lydia S. Hubbs, Angelina Haight, Isabel Kitley, Susan Dorland, Sarah Nicholson, Sarah T. Barker, Hannah Jane Cody, Elizabeth Richardson, and Elizabeth R. Rorke, to meet and confer thereon with Men Friends, and report at a future sitting.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the subjects from Indiana, and Western Yearly Meetings, present the following report, with which this Meeting unites:

To the Yearly Meeting,—

We, your Committee, to whom was referred the subject contained in the post-script to Western and Indiana epistles in reference to a general conference, Report—

That we have taken the matter confided to us into serious consideration, and after a free interchange of sentiment, are united in judgment, that the way was not open to recommend the Yearly Meeting to take any action in the premises.

On behalf of the Committee.

ELIZA BREWER.

THOMAS CLARK.

Under an humbling sense of the Lord's goodness, the meeting adjourned, to meet on Fourth day afternoon, at 3 o'clock.

Fourth Day Afternoon, 7th Mo., 5th, 1876.

Friends again convened.

A satisfactory report from the Boarding School Committee, and also of the Building Committee, have been received and read, the names of Susan Dorland, Lydia S. Hubbs, Marianne Harris, Lydia P. Stover, and Ellen Atkins, were added to Committee. The report is as follows.

To Canada Yearly Meeting of Friends.

The Boarding School Committee report as follows:—

1st In obedience to the call of the Secretary your Committee met at this place in the 8th Month last, and as authorized by the Yearly Meeting, accepted of the new site consisting of the Grove and Hill on the Leavens Estate, and containing Ten Acres of land, the deed of which was presented to the committee by Henry Reasin, at that date.

2nd The Building Committee appointed by this Committee to proceed with the erection of the Seminary have made the following Report.—

3rd Your Committee have estimated that the heating of the building (which we recommend should be first with Coal Stoves) together with the furnishing of the same will require the sum of about \$4000. We recommend that this sum be raised as follows, and at as early a date as possible.

(1) Balance of \$2000 quota	say	\$1500
(2) Sale of old School site	say	\$1000
(3) To be raised by yearly meeting as it may direct		\$1500

Making a total of \$4000

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

JOHN WRIGHT *Clerk.*

Pickering 7th Mo. 4th 1876.

The Building Committee for the Erection of a Seminary for Canada Yearly Meeting of Friends make the following Report:

1st. Having advertised for tenders for the erection of the Seminary, upon plans and specifications prepared by William Duffies, Architect, and already accepted by the General Committee, we received a number of Tenders, and after several meetings for the purpose, we finally succeeded in letting the contract

on the 18th of 9th Mo. last, for the sum of \$24,300, leaving a margin of \$700, which will be fully absorbed by incidental expenses.

2. The contractors have given first-class sureties to the full amount of their contract, and are bound to have the building completed, ready for occupation, by the 1st of 1st Mo. next.

3. The Committee are held bound by the contract to pay the contractors 80 per cent monthly, on the work done and certified by the architect, and the balance within one month of the completion of the contract.

4. The amount of money available and at our disposal for the purposes of erecting the Seminary, including amounts already paid, is \$21,758:06, leaving a balance of \$3,241:94, which it will be necessary for the General Committee to provide from the funds subscribed, before the close of the present year.

5. The contractors are proceeding rapidly with the erection of the building, the work of which is being prosecuted quite to the satisfaction of the Committee and of the Architect.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

JOSHUA N. RICHARDSON, *Chairman*.

Pickering, 7th Mo., 3rd, 1876.

Essays for New York, Iowa, North Carolina, and also to Australia, were read and adopted.

The Committee appointed to nominate Friends to serve on the Bible School Committee, proposed the following names, which were satisfactory:—

Howard Nicholson, Gulielma Cohoe, Jacob Spencer, Phebe J. Spencer, James F. Barker, Sarah J. Barker, Alfred R. Spencer, Abby Moore, John R. Harris, Maryanne Harris, James Kitely, Isabel J. Kitely, Joseph M. Rogers, Emma Dean, George Rorke, Hannah Moore, Ira Clark, Rachel Doyle, Phebe Doyle, Benjamin Cody, Hannah Jane Cody, Seneca Doan, Andrew Lambie, Mary C. Starr, Samuel Hall, Rachel

James, James T. Richardson, Sarah A. Dale, Wing A. Rogers, Hannah Reazin, Jeremiah Clark, Lydia M. Haight, Harvey Y. Brundage, Elizabeth Garrett, William H. Mullett, Judith Mullett, Allan Dorland, Mary Ann Dorland, Stephen W. White, Lydia S. Hubbs, John H. C. Garrett, Elizabeth Webb, Arza Wiltsie, Sarah Wiltsie, Byron Robinson, Mary Robinson.

The following reports from the Book and Tract Association, were received and read:

The Book and Tract Association Report: That they have on hand about the usual stock in Books and Tracts, fully equal to the demand. The only purchase of Tracts since last Yearly Meeting, was twenty dollars worth from Richmond. The orders for Tracts, though few, have been filled. The sale during the past year has been smaller than at any former time. We have received no reports from any of the sub-committees.

EDWARD CORNELL, *Secretary.*

TREASURER'S REPORT.

ASSETS.

6 Mo., 20th, 1875.	Cash on hand	\$133 86
	Sale of Books and Tracts during yr. . .	33 28
		\$167 14

DISBURSEMENTS.

7 Mo., 6th, 1875.	Paid for Books and Tracts	\$89 00
	Telegraphing, ...	3 20
7 Mo. 1st, 1876.	Cash on hand, ...	74 94
		\$167 14

WILLIAM V. RICHARDSON, *Treasurer.*

The Committee on returning minutes, presented the following, which were approved. The Clerk was directed to sign them on behalf of the Meeting.

Our beloved Friend Deborah C. Thomas, a Minister, acceptably attended this Meeting, with a minute of unity from Baltimore Mo. Meeting.

Similar minutes were prepared for all the other Ministers in attendance.

Hannah B. Goddard, an Elder, acceptably attended this Meeting as companion to Mary Knowles, with a minute of unity from Farnham Mo. Meeting, Quebec.

Similar minutes were prepared for all the Friends in attendance as companions, with minutes.

Now may the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with us all, that we may gather up the fragments, that nothing be lost; that we too may set our seals to the truth, that the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal the Lord knoweth them that are His. What shall we render unto the Lord for all His benefits—a broken and contrite spirit, Oh ! God, thou wilt not despise—truly thanksgiving and praise belong unto thee, our God. And in conclusion, we commend one another unto the care of Israel's unslumbering Shepherd, desiring that the God of grace, mercy and peace, may be with us all, unto the end.

The meeting concluded, purposing to meet here again next year, if the Lord permit.

ELIZA H. VARNEY, *Clerk.*

EPISTLES

ADDRESSED TO

CANADA YEARLY MEETING OF WOMEN FRIENDS.

1876.



LONDON.

DEAR SISTERS:

With the return of another Yearly Meeting, we wish again to send a few words of love and christian sympathy to you, our distant sisters, who, though so far separated from us, are yet near and dear, through the love of our one Saviour; longing that anything we might say would comfort and help some soul amongst you on its heavenly journey. And the improbability of our ever meeting here on earth, does of itself seem to draw our hearts to that land where we do one day hope to meet,—the land of the many mansions, and the thought of whose joys must ever be a strong consolation to those who love the Saviour, for there they shall see His face, and God Himself shall wipe away all tears, and shall make us drink of the river of His pleasures.

We have afresh been longing that we may more fully realize all His glorious promises: Whatsoever ye ask in my name, I will do it. Come unto me, and I will give you rest. And truly He who promises is able also to perform.

Much sympathy has been expressed at this time, for the mothers, in the bringing up of their little

ones, that in all things they might be found setting before them, by example and precept, a life consistent with our profession as followers of the Lord Jesus.

Many of us have been deeply concerned on account of the growth of intemperance in our land, and we have had an additional impetus to our efforts for its repression, by the visits of some from America, who, coming fresh from a field of labor there, have inspired us with renewed zeal.

We have heard with great interest from various sources, of the religious awakening in your land. We rejoice to hear of it, and trust that the heaven may go on working and and spreading, until the kingdoms of the earth shall become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ.

Our beloved Friends, Eliza Brewer and Rachel Cronkhite, from your Yearly Meeting, are very acceptably with us, and we trust that that the labors of these and other dedicated servants of the Lord, may be blessed and bring forth fruit; and may the sweet reward of peace be bestowed upon them. May we be individually concerned to have our eyes steadily fixed on the Great Captain of our souls' salvation, who loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own precious blood, that we may "be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord."

We have been comforted at this time by an acceptable epistle from our sisters in South Australia, and it is with us to ask you if you remember those dear ones in that far off land. They are a small body, feeling at times weak and discouraged, and longing for the sympathy of their more favored brethern and sisters.

"We then," saith the apostle, "as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain;" and this Heavenly grace is able to make us "grow up unto him in all thing

which is the Head, even Christ," being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Him to the glory and praise of God.

With the salutation of love, we are your sisters.

Signed in and on behalf of the Meeting,

SARAH ELIZA DYMOND, *Clerk.*



DUBLIN.

BELoved FRIENDS:

As we have once more assembled in our Yearly Meeting, and have rejoiced in the consciousness of our Heavenly Father's presence, our hearts have been afresh lifted up in praise unto Him "of whom the whole family in Heaven and earth is named.

How sweet is the unity that binds together all those who have been redeemed by the same precious blood, and anointed by the same Holy Spirit. May we, dear friends, be drawn into closer fellowship with one another, and with Christ, our Living Head.

The glad tidings of a full and free salvation, have been proclaimed amongst us with power, and sinners have been earnestly exhorted to look unto "the lamb of God, who taketh away the sin of the world." We have been reminded how necessary it is, that in this day, when infidelity and unbelief in so many insidious forms are blinding men's eyes, that the precious doctrine of the Atonement should be clearly and unmistakably set forth.

Much loving counsel has been given to the young at this time, and they have been encouraged to look to Jesus, not only as the Saviour to whom they may commit the keeping of their souls, but as a tender and personal friend to whom they may entrust every event and interest of their daily lives. To those who

have already in their individual experience, realized the pardoning love of God in Christ Jesus, a solemn appeal has been made to bring no divided offering, but to lay body, soul and spirit in renewed consecration on the altar of the Lord. Dear Sisters, we need not fear thus to surrender ourselves unreservedly into His hands. "His commandments are not grievous," and His will is love. All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth, to such as keep his covenant, and we have the gracious assurance that "When He putteth forth His own sheep, He goeth before them."

How encouraging it is to remember that the humblest believer in Jesus has a testimony to bear for Him in the quiet circle of our homes, or in the wider spheres of service which He in His loving guidance may appoint. Again and again during our Yearly Meeting, our thoughts have been earnestly directed to the wide fields of sin and intemperance which so loudly call for work for the dear Master, and the perishing souls of men; and we trust that from many hearts the prayer has arisen, "Lord, here I am, send me!"

We have at this time the company of many faithful witnesses for the Lord; amongst them Eliza Brewer and Rachel Cronkhite, from your Yearly Meeting. We believe their labors are owned of the Lord, and we trust that as they, in obedience to Him, have gone forth "bearing precious seed," they may, in returning to their own land, realize the truth of the promise, "They shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing their sheaves with them."

In conclusion, may we, dear sisters, more fully realize our privileges as the redeemed children of God. May the young amongst us be encouraged to hold back nothing which the Lord may call for at their hands; and we all be enabled by His Grace

“to run with patience the race set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith.”

We remain your affectionate sisters.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting,

ELIZA JANE RICHARDSON, *Clerk*

NEW YORK.

DEAR SISTERS:

Again through the mercy of our Father in Heaven, we have been permitted to meet in our annual gathering, and our hearts have been warmed and filled with thanksgiving as we listened to the loving greetings from our sister Yearly Meetings. We have missed from their places many who have been wont to meet with us, and who have long borne the burden and heat of the day. But, while deeply feeling their loss, we have been strengthened and encouraged in remembering that He who made them what they were, is able and willing to qualify others to take the work which they have dropped. And that with each individual member looking unto Jesus *only*, and following Him whithersoever He goeth, we may become a glorious Church, “accepted in the Beloved,” and a light to the world around us.

The Gospel in all its freeness and fullness has been proclaimed among us, and the duty and privilege of *every Christian* to experience the baptism of the Holy Ghost, and the indwelling of the Spirit of the Lord. And our hearts have been lifted up anew in gratitude “unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and made us kings and priests unto God and His Father.” Seeing we have these exceeding great and precious promises, dear sisters, what manner of persons ought we to be in all holy conversation and godliness, looking for and hastening unto the coming of the day of the Lord.

To those who through following Him feel that their way is through thick darkness, has come with comforting assurance the message, "The darkness and the light are both alike to Him,—and that abiding with Christ, though they may be unable to see him, yet He knoweth the way that they take," and is still watching over, and leading them with loving care, and when he hath tried them they shall come forth as gold.

The blessedness of laboring for the Lord, and the truth that the smallest service done at His bidding and for His sake is accepted by him, has been forcibly presented to us, and we have felt that it is indeed a great privilege that we can work for Him who has done so much for us, and we have gratefully remembered that the best and highest service may be rendered by the least of the flock, even that of loving Him with all the heart, and soul, and mind.

Now may the peace of God which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus, to whom be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting,

RUTH C. FLAGLER, *Clerk.*

NEW ENGLAND.

DEAR SISTERS:

We trust it is in the unchangeable love of the Gospel that we are drawn to address you, desiring that grace and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ, may abound towards you and us.

How fitting is the exhortation of the Apostle, "Put on therefore, as the elect of God holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long-suffering, forbearing one another. and forgiving one another." We have renewedly

felt that our epistolary correspondence is a blessing to the church, when under the holy anointing, believers in Christ speak of these things which their eyes have been anointed to see, and their understanding enlightened to perceive, even the good things of the Redeemer's Kingdom.

How precious is the love of Christ! cementing heart to heart in a secret hidden fellowship which is not of the world. The world loveth its own. "Because ye are not of the world, the world hateth you." This was the teaching of our blessed Lord, and we too, must deny ourselves, take up our daily cross and follow him as his chosen number did. It is enough for the disciple to be as his master, and the servant as his Lord." What though, dear sisters, it is appointed for us to know seasons of fasting and of deep humiliation, the Lord doth not forsake in seasons of proving, and very great is the blessedness of trusting in Him. "For as the Heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy to them that fear Him." "Zion said, the Lord hath forsaken me, and my Lord hath forgotten me," with spirits bowed before him may we prayerfully seek to know and do his will, trusting that in his own good time He will make manifest his power in assurances of his favor, and in fulfillment of his promise to bless. In answer to Zion's piteous cry, He said, "Behold, I have graven thee on the palms of my hands, thy walls are continually before me."

May the tenderly visited children of our Heavenly Father be encouraged to follow on to know the Lord, for unto them the promise is that, "He shall come as the latter and former rain upon the earth."

In conclusion, dear sisters, we would repeat, "Be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, in as much as your labor is not in vain in the Lord." Signed on behalf of the Meeting,

GERTRUDE W. CARTLAND, *Clerk.*

BALTIMORE.

Our hearts turn towards you, dear sisters, in much love and sympathy and in the fellowship which binds together the whole household of faith. How precious is the bond of union, even the love of Christ Jesus our Lord.

What is the love that becomes our Christian profession? It is surely more than a sentiment! It is a yearning after souls, a heartfelt interest in the welfare of our fellow-beings, a willingness to humble self, if we can be the means of saving some. Much earnest exhortation has been given that each individual should know for himself that the precious blood of Christ has been applied to his heart, cleansing from all sin; giving him the assurance of peace and safety; even as the Israelites of old was safe under the sprinkled blood of the slain lamb. It is time for some, both for you and us, *to be in earnest*. We have heard the truth again and again, let it not be as an idle tale. "Quench not the spirit." "Despise not prophesying."

And to those who have embraced the truth we would say, "As ye have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving." You are freely justified by faith, therefore yield yourselves unto God, that he may work in you to will and to do of His good pleasure. Has not each member of the church some gift wherewith to bring glory to God? Let none frustrate the designs of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the "Chief corner stone, in whom all the building, fitly framed together, groweth into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom ye also are build-ed together, for a habitation of God through the spirit."

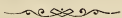
Our dear friend, Stanley Pumphrey, from England,

is with us at this time, as are other Friends from other yearly meetings. The Lord in his goodness has prepared his messengers and sent them to preach the gospel in our midst, and may he prepare our hearts to receive the message sent, that being mixed with faith in them that hear, it may bring forth abundant fruit to His glory.

And now, dear sisters, we bid you an affectionate farewell, desiring for you "Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Jesus Christ our Lord."

Signed by direction of the Meeting,

JULIA VALENTINE, *Clerk.*



NORTH CAROLINA.

DEAR SISTERS:

We have been permitted once more through the mercy of our Heavenly Father to assemble in a Yearly Meeting capacity, and have been favored to transact the business of the church in harmony and love. We have had the company of many dear Friends from other Yearly Meetings, laboring in word and doctrine, all speaking the same language, preaching Christ Jesus the Lord, and whose work, we believe, has been greatly blessed to us. Of this number is our dear friend, Stanley Pumphrey, from England, whom we gladly welcome to our land, and pray that his labors may continue to be blessed.

We have been forcibly reminded of the necessity of entire consecration of all to the dear Master, and of walking in the highway of holiness, that in this way there is joy and rejoicing as in no other, that it is the redeemed, the ransomed of the Lord that walk there—that these shall obtain joy and gladness where sorrow and sighing shall forever be unknown.

The dear Lord has condescended to be with us and bless us from sitting to sitting; many have testified of His goodness and mercy in so richly blessing them at this time. May the dear Master still continue to bless and keep us under the shadow of his wing.

The cause of Peace, of Temperance, Sabbath Schools, Indian Affairs and Mission Work, are still claiming our attention, and although we have not accomplished so much as we could desire, yet we are encouraged to labor on in the future from the results of our past efforts in the different branches of church work.

There have been five General Meetings held during the past year, all of which, we believe, were owned by the Great Head of the Church, and abundantly blessed to many, who have found in these, Christ precious to their souls, a present Saviour, able to save to the uttermost. A Committee was appointed to carry on this work and encouraged to faithfulness in this service. May we not look expectantly to our ever "present Helper" for even greater manifestations of His favor? and we be enabled humbly to say, Behold what his hand hath wrought!

In conclusion, dear sisters. may we all ever be found so walking in the light that we may have fellowship one with another and know that the blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth us from all sin, as it is our blessed privilege.

In love, your sisters.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting.

RACHEL BINFORD, *Clerk.*

OHIO.

DEAR SISTERS:

The reading of your acceptable epistle, with those

from other Yearly Meetings has strengthened the bond of Christian fellowship, causing us to feel that we are in Christ. Many of the young amongst us have through the tender visitation of the Lord, been made willing to surrender themselves unreservedly to the Divine will, and are thus becoming fitted for usefulness in the church. The cause of intemperance is claiming the prayerful attention of this meeting; and notwithstanding, we still have to mourn over the many who annually fall victims to this sin, yet we are cheered by the assurance that some have been saved through the labors of the Lord's children. We have at this time a renewed sense of the great importance of family worship, and may you, with us, dear sisters, with our families daily gathered about us, ask for a blessing, not only upon our own souls, but upon the souls of our children.

It has pleased the Lord to bless the General Meetings that have been held within our limits, not only in strengthening the bond of fellowship that unite us in him, but in the conversion of sinners and the sanctification of believers. We have at this time established a Missionary Board, and are more deeply than ever impressed with the importance of such labor, not only in preaching the gospel to all the world, but in gathering our neighbors' children into Bible schools, in striving to stay the tide of intemperance, and in gladly working for the Lord in every way his Holy Spirit may direct.

We have the acceptable company of several ministers from other Yearly Meetings, and a free, full and present salvation from sin through faith in the atoning blood of Jesus has been forcibly and clearly proclaimed.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Signed by direction of the Meeting.

SARAH E. JENKINS, *Clerk.*

INDIANA

DEAR SISTERS:

We have felt it to be a great privilege to again be permitted to meet in this our annual gathering, and realize so much of the calming influence of our Heavenly Father's love over us. And as we have received such kind greetings from our absent sisters, we have felt the preciousness of the link that binds us together as Sister Yearly Meetings.

Said our precious Lord, "The branch cannot bear fruit of itself except it abide in the vine, no more can ye except ye abide in me." Earnest has been our desire that this branch of the church might be so ingrafted into Christ, the living vine, that much fruit may be brought forth to His glory, and to the saving of many precious souls. And as Jesus is preached in all His fulness as a saviour from sin, and one that came to destroy the work of the devil, many are finding Him in a present salvation, and an abiding guest in their own hearts. May this also be your experience. Oh! how precious to know Him really as our Saviour and burden-bearer! That we need not go to earthly friends in time of trouble, but with loving trust can know His keeping power. "Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear Him."

Much interest has been felt in the Home Mission work as opening up a channel in which every child of God may labor. And the reports show that many souls have been saved through this instrumentality. Many of our friends are actively engaged in the cause of temperance, and we are hopeful of a better day near at hand. Mothers have been tenderly cautioned not to create an appetite for drink in their children while young, as it often results in much sorrow in after life. The reports from all the other Committees have been encouraging, stimulating us to greater diligence.

As we remember our missionaries in foreign lands, our prayers have not only been raised for them, but also that the dear Lord would qualify others for this work, and we believe many are preparing to say, *send me.*

Now the Lord of peace himself give you peace always by all means.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

With love we remain your sisters.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting,

EMILY JANE HARRIS.

IOWA.

DEAR SISTERS:

We have been much edified in hearing your excellent epistle. It comes to us as a fresh remembrance that you are sending out an influence that will unite with others and form a great tidal wave of Christianity which we hope may in time overspread all lands.

We have many dear friends with us from Yearly Meetings; and their cheering words have been a blessing for which we are truly grateful.

We have been exhorted to greater faithfulness in the study of the Holy Scriptures, and in giving heed to the inward Teacher, that we may have a near acquaintance with God through Jesus Christ, his Son. Mothers have been encouraged to pray with and for their families, trusting that the seed thus sown will spring up and bear fruit to the glory of God.

We have been impressed with the necessity of occupying whatever talents we have, whether one, two or five, knowing that the little nails in a building are

just as important as the larger ones, and that the smaller places cannot be filled by the larger nails.

As there is no coin so small that it may not receive the full imprint of the image to be placed upon it, so, there is no heart so small or insignificant that Jesus may not stamp there his image. And as we are faithful to the charge committed to us, we shall realize and advance in grace and be prepared to hear those sweet words, "Well done, good and faithful servant, thou has been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over more, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." We have had our hearts enlarged in love towards the scattered members of our branch of the church, in hearing reports from laborers of our Yearly Meetings who have been laboring on the Pacific Coast, also in listening to the account of our beloved friend, Joseph John Dymond, of England, with his fellow laborer, Alfred Wright, who have been on a similar visit to Australia and adjoining islands. May the Lord stir the hearts of more and more of his servants to go into these distant lands for the glory of his great name.

And now, dear sisters, in that love which hopes for the day when the angel's song of "Peace on earth, good will to men" may flow from every heart, we bid you farwell.

Signed by direction of the Meeting,

MARY B. ANDREWS, *Clerk.*



WESTERN.

DEAR SISTERS:

We have again met together we trust in the name of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; and though we know and feel our unworthiness of the very least

of his blessings, we at the same time *realize* that He is more *willing* to bless us than we are to ask of Him; and have therefore humbled ourselves at the foot of the cross and sought His blessing and guidance in all the affairs of the church that came before us at the time, sincerely desiring that all we do may be done to the honor and glory of our Great Father. And we do realize that He has richly blessed us in our coming together. We do not forget the promise that whatsoever we ask of the Lord in the name of His dear Son, shall be granted us. The meeting has been baptized into a deep feeling concerning woman's ministry. We were most earnestly exhorted to more diligently occupy the talent lent to us, that when our Lord shall come we may be able to return him his own with usury. A great deal has been said in proof of the fact that those who seem to be the farthest from God are most likely to be reached by the gentle persuasive words of living Christian women. But when we look about us and behold the many fields already white unto harvest, we are constrained to earnestly pray the Lord of the harvest to send forth *more* laborers into His vineyard, for we cannot but see that in proportion to the work, the laborers are indeed few. Many of us have renewedly covenanted with our God to "Lay aside every weight and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and run with patience, the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is now set down at the right hand of God, interceding for us."

Your epistle has been read, and again we do thank our Heavenly Father that we can be and are so united in Him, by this correspondence. We have in our midst many ministers from other Yearly Meetings, sent, we thankfully believe, by and in the spirit

and love of our Lord to encourage His own dear children, and to arouse the lukewarm and indifferent. Many have appeared to be greatly strengthened in the faith, and others have realized that the scales had fallen from their eyes, their ears were stopped, so that now they see and hear as never before, and are rejoicing in the full light and joy of the Lord. Our morning meetings have been seasons of great outpourings of the Holy Spirit, and we were thus more ably qualified for the business of the day.

The good reports from our different standing committees show that the work of our Master is steadily going on. And now, dear sisters, farewell. We pray, that you, with us, may keep an eye single unto the glory of our Lord, and experience a growth in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath bought us with the price of his precious blood.

Signed by direction of the Meeting,

PHEBE G. TAYLOR, *Clerk.*

KANSAS.

DEAR SISTERS:

Again through the mercy which is as unbounded as it is unmerited, are we permitted to assemble in our annual gathering, and thus again to greet you; and as from day to day we have met and mingled in the labors as well as the pleasures of Christian fellowship, the response of many hearts has been, "Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised for all his goodness to the children of men."

We have at this time many ministers from other Yearly Meetings, whose timely labors have been as refreshing showers to our souls, pray for us that we

give ourselves more and more into His keeping until he sanctify us wholly.

Since our last annual gathering we have had to pass through severe provings, and have had our faith and confidence in the allwise providence of God put to the test; but we are fully prepared to testify to the truth of the declaration, "They that trust in the Lord shall not want any good thing;" for in the riches of his goodness he has provided a way whereby our needs have been supplied. The kind liberality of our distant friends towards us in this our time of need, will ever have a place in our grateful remembrance.

Our annual committees have made satisfactory reports, and they have been encouraged to persevere in the labors assigned them by the church.

Now, in conclusion, we commend you, dear sisters, "Unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy."

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting,

DRUSILLA WILSON, *Clerk.*

